

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 05360 081431Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /040 W
-----081935Z 115560 /53
R 081405Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1038
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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FOR USEEC

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: ELAB GR
SUBJECT: VISIT BY IAM PRESIDENT FLOYD E. SMITH

REF: STATE 103480 (NOTAL)

1. THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS (IAM), FLOYD E. SMITH, VISITED ATHENS MAY 23-28 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF GREEK WORKERS (GSEE) AND MET WITH VARIOUS GREEK TRADE UNION LEADERS. JUST BEFORE LEAVING, MR. SMITH TOLD THE EMBASSY'S LABOR REPORTING OFFICER HE WAS QUITE SATISFIED WITH HIS VISIT. HE COMMENTED THAT HE HAD FILLED IN SOME GAPS IN HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE GREEK LABOR MOVEMENT AND CORRECTED SOME MISCONCEPTIONS. AT THE SAME TIME HE CONCLUDED THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT PLAYED A LARGER ROLE WITH RESPECT TO THE LABOR MOVEMENT THAN IS THE CASE, FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE US.

2. BASED ON WHAT HE LEARNED HERE SMITH ALSO BELIEVES IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THE GREEK TRADE UNIONS TO DEVISE A MORE "INDEPENDENT" METHOD OF FINANCING THEIR ACTIVITIES. (THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF FINANCING TRADE UNIONS HAS BEEN
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CRITIZED BY FOREIGN TRADE UNIONS. UNDER THIS SYSTEM AN AUTONOMOUS ORGANIZATION UNDER THE MINISTRY OF LABOR COLLECTS CERTAIN CONTRIBUTIONS FROM WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS AND ALLOTS PART OF THESE REVENUES TO ANOTHER AUTONOMOUS SEVEN-MAN BOARD, COMPOSED OF TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES, WHICH IS SUPERVISED BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOR. THIS BODY IN TURN DISTRIBUTES FUNDS TO THE TRADE

UNIONS IN PROPORTION TO THE REGISTERED MEMBERS WHO VOTED
IN THE LAST ELECTIONS OF THE TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION IN
QUESTION.)

3. ON JUNE 3, A STAFF EMPLOYEE OF THE GSEE TOLD THE EMBASSY
LABOR OFFICER THAT THE VISIT OF SMITH AND HIS ASSOCIATES
HAD GONE VERY WELL FROM THE GSEE'S POINT OF VIEW. DURING THE
VISIT IT WAS AGREED THAT THE IAM WOULD HELP FINANCE A TRADE
UNION SEMINAR TO BE HELD UNDER INTERNATIONAL METALWORKERS
FEDERATION AUSPICES IN ATHENS IN LATE JULY.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MACHINE TOOL INDUSTRY, LABOR RELATIONS, LABOR UNIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ATHENS05360
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770204-0853
Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770680/aaaacsdi.tel
Line Count: 73
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: ELAB, GR, IAM, (SMITH, FLOYD E)
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